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Senate Meeting, August 29, 2018

Academic Senate
Illinois State University

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Academic Senate Meeting Agenda
Wednesday, August 29, 2018
Approved

Call to Order

Senate Chairperson Susan Kalter called the meeting to order.

Roll Call

Senate Secretary Martha Horst called the roll and declared a quorum.

Senator Kalter: Wonderful. We also have the presentation to begin with. We have been wanting the State University Annuitants Association President, Larry Alferink, to be here for the last year, but we had such a busy year last year and he had such a busy schedule as well that we couldn't figure out where to fit him in. So we finally have Larry Alferink to give us an update on the activities of the State University Annuitants Association, which essentially, for those of you who are not familiar with them, helps to advocate for us regarding pensions and other issues for people who have retired from the university. Take it away.

Presentation: Update on SUAA activities (SUAA President Larry Alferink)

Dr. Alferink: Thank you. If you are new to campus as an employee, once you collect your first paycheck you may not realize it, but you are an annuitant because you are participating in the State University Retirement System and they define you as an annuitant. So you think of annuitants as retirees, but in fact anybody who is currently employed or who has previously been employed and, for example, retired, is an annuitant and is eligible to join the local chapter of ISU, of SUAA – the State University's Annuitants Association. I have the President, Gail Lamb, who is the President of our local chapter, and as Susan mentioned, I was President of the State University Annuitants Association representing 53 different campuses around the state – the universities and the community colleges. My term expired in June and I am now Treasurer, but I'm still active. I also served on the Senate for a couple of stints, ending up as Chair of the Rules Committee for a period of time, and so I have an affinity for this group such as that can develop. The Annuitants Association represents your interests as best we can. We do that whether you're a member or not a member, but we prefer you to be a member. And we do that by protecting your pensions and we also do that by protecting your benefits so that, for example, there was a constitutional amendment proposed that would eliminate or modify the pension clause in the Illinois State Constitution and that pension clause, Article XIII, Section 5, is very important and we defeated that pension. We were the only organization that had the legal authority to oppose that pension across the state, and we mobilized against it.

Our lawyers also played a major role in defeating a bill that would have substantially reduced your pensions in the future, commonly known as SB1, and our lawyer was the one that the Supreme Court Justices cited heavily, and that decision was unanimous. And so we work very hard on your behalf. As you may be aware, over the last decade or so the state has spent a lot of its time trying to address a pension debt issue that has arisen for a couple of reasons, one of which is a failure to fund the system and so in some years they didn't put any money in or they didn't put as much money in as was required in the law and instead diverted it for other purposes in the state budget. And that didn't seem to be a problem at the time, but over time that had gradually grew and the pension debt is now \$137 billion. Now, for most people that's a significant amount of money. The other reason why it grew is because during the Edgar administration there was recognition that the pension debt was a problem and they decided they should do something to fix it, so they developed what is called the "ramp up," and the ramp up basically was designed to pay off the pension debt but was designed badly. It basically did the same thing that not funding it did. It underfunded it in the early years and then ramped it up in the later years. So in the early years, paying off the pension debt didn't require very much money. We're now in the ramp up period where now it's a significant amount of money, and by 2045 when this ends, it will take up 19-20% of the state budget. That's not sustainable. You cannot have a bill that requires 20% of the state budget to be used to pay off a debt that shouldn't exist.

So I'm here today to say that we have proposed an alternative way of addressing this issue that we are very hopeful will pass in some form or another. I'll describe it in its basic form, although that's not necessarily what we would expect to pass. What we're proposing is that you level out the payments at \$8.5 billion a year. That includes the currently required payments to the pension system as well as some money to pay off the existing debt, and it would pay off 90% of the debt by 2045, which is exactly what the ramp up bill was designed to do. 8.8... or 8.5% is about 8% of the state budget currently. That's a whole lot better than 20%. And in a couple years, if we do nothing, it will be at 12% or 14% of the state budget whereas this keeps it flat, and it does so by putting the money, the payments of the money, into the pension systems. The state has done this before, but what's happened is they've siphoned the money off from the payments that were supposed to go in the pension system and used it for other purposes just like they siphoned off the payments that they should have made. And if you don't put the money into the pension systems, this solution doesn't work. So the key to the solution is the money that exists that is earned is put back into the pension systems. The pension systems invest money and they make money on those investments, and that's key for the success of any pension system is to have money that's put in and then that earns earnings from investments and then that is used to help pay the pensions for myself and anyone else who is working for the state, who retires from the state and takes a pension. We have an actuary that we hired to do the actuarial calculations, and he came up with various models. We have presented this to the Civic Federation in Chicago (the Civic Federation is a group of very wealthy individuals who basically supported all the pension changes that you could possibly make that would reduce your pensions) and to the Better Government Association. For the most part it was very well received except by one person, who is the person who is kind of in charge of some of this stuff. And immediately there was a lot of bad press in the financial press. We had not actually described the proposal to anyone else, other than in this room, in that room. Much of it was wrong. There were a lot of errors in it, so we think it came from people who were at that meeting. If you were paying any attention... In the meantime, shortly after that (and this was in basically the end of January), it was presented to a subject matter hearing before the House Personnel and Pension Committee which is chaired by Representative Robert Marwick, who is a democrat in the House. He is the sponsor of this bill. You cannot have a bill on pensions with a better sponsor than the Chair of the House Personnel and Pension Committee, and he is really dedicated to getting this passed. Now, I don't expect it to pass exactly in the form that I've described it to you today, and I haven't gone into all the details. You'd have to be an actuary to understand everything about it, but I've given you the synopsis. I expect what will happen, and this will happen in January in what's often called the lame duck session of the legislature... They didn't want to introduce it during the regular session because it's controversial, it's new, it's hard to understand, and things that are controversial and new are harder to get passed. And so it needs to have time to percolate a bit. It's now percolating.

There is another group called the CBTA – oh, what does CBTA stand for anymore? It's a think tank out of the University of Illinois of Chicago, and they have their own solution which is to re-amortize the debt and to basically extend the timeline for paying off the debt, which actually costs more money. It doesn't save the state money; it costs more money. But it does reduce the annual payoffs. We expect that this will be combined with that bill from CBTA and probably a few other things. We may or may not like all of those – we don't know – but that package... There will be a package that this is part of, and that package will probably reduce the amount that has to be put into this in each year. So we'll have to see what happens come January or maybe next year following the legislative session. But if this is introduced in the form that I've talked about, it would require a loan to loan \$107 billion. That is the largest public loan that has ever existed, and therefore that's scary. And so it's a little hard to sell. People, their jaws drop when you talk about taking out a loan of \$107 billion. If implemented, the actuary estimates that it would save the state \$103 billion between now and 2045. So, it substantially reduces the... The debt is not \$137 billion; that's the current debt. That assumes that you pay it off today and there is no interest that accumulates. The actual debt will be \$300 and some billion dollars. It will be about three times that. And if you pay off this debt earlier by using the proceeds from this bond, you would reduce that liability substantially. \$103 dollars is, in my opinion, substantial. And it does that by reducing the risk from those that are in the pension systems to the bond market. And if it works, the bond rating agencies have tended to rate the state budget issue as terrible, and that means that the sale of bonds costs the

state a lot of money. We're very close to junk bond status. If we have a solution to the pension debt, that's the reason why the state's bond rating is so low that the bond agencies like. The thinking is that this would also help the bond ratings for the state, and that would help everybody.

For those of you that are students and are thinking about becoming teachers, you are affected by this. If you graduate and take a different kind of job working for the state, you would also be affected by this. So its impact is very broad, and if you are a taxpayer living in the state it would also affect you because your debt would be substantially reduced. So it is a new solution. It is a controversial solution because it is so different from how they've been thinking about it. They've been thinking about attacking everybody and reducing this. Some of this is the attack on school systems and, therefore, teachers, and the state asks why there's a shortage of teachers. This will help alleviate some of those problems. There's one other point I was going to make here. Well... So, that's the main thing I wanted to talk about.

There are some things that did pass this year that may or may not be good. I'm not going to spend a lot of time talking about this because some of it doesn't really affect anybody in this room. There is a bill that was passed that allows individuals who wish to sell off their pension or a portion of their pension at a discount to the state so that they would get their pension money up front. That applies to people who are no longer employed by the state but are not eligible to retire. It may be a good deal for them particularly if they're in ill health. Whether the state is going to save money from this, I don't know that anybody knows. It also applies... You can delay and discount your pension and you can take your pension from the current 3% increase each year to a smaller amount that's about half of that. So you can delay it and reduce it and you get some of that money up front now that you could use to spend for other things. Again, if you expect to die soon that may be a good proposal. For other people, you're going to need a financial advisor to sort of sort through whether this is a good deal for you or not.

Last spring when I was invited to attend this meeting, there was a lot of bills that were of great concern to many people in this room. One of them, for example, was a bill that would allow you to be certified as a teacher after three years. That three years in college would produce a certified teacher. That didn't pass. That's probably a good thing. There was a bill that would standardize the application process for all the universities and that if you filled out this application and met certain requirements, every university in the state was supposed to accept you. That didn't pass. There was a bill that was going to specialize, universities to be specialized in different areas, and so if you went to a university because it was close to your home and you thought you might find something there that you wanted to major in, if this bill passed they might not offer that anymore. And so there's a whole lot of those kinds of things; all of those failed to pass. They've been introduced before, but they could come back and we'll have to monitor those. And we will work against them if they come back because we want things that improve higher education, not things that may be detrimental to it. So we work with the universities and other people to try to do this. We have worked to try... During the several year budget crisis when universities weren't getting money, we were working to try to get money for the universities. So we have kind of our fingers in all kinds of things that affect higher education and you, and that's my report for this year. If you are interested, we do have some brochures about SUAA, and we have some membership forms in case you're interested. It would be great if you joined us. The membership has gone down because the number of people employed by many universities have gone down. And when people aren't employed anymore, they aren't interested in supporting higher education. So, this university was not one of them, and so it would be very nice if we could continue to be one of the largest chapters in the state. Thank you.

Senator Kalter: Do we have any questions for Larry? Thank you, Larry. And it looks like we have the other Larry who has a question or a comment.

President Dietz: I don't have a question; I have a comment. I've worked with Larry and Gail for some time, and they work diligently for this issue. I want to say that the financial pickle that the state of Illinois finds itself in has no relationship to anybody doing anything wrong that's a retiree. They simply have retired under the conditions that were offered to them, and oftentimes I think we see some blame coming there that's completely

undeserved. And I want to commend SUAA and Larry and Gail in particular for spending time coming up with some draft solutions to an issue. It's not really a situation where they're kind of disinterested bystanders. They've been participating in a discussion and I really commend them for the time and energy that they've put in on this. So, thank you.

Senator Blum: Yes, I was wondering if you could... I kind of wanted to explain to my faculty what you just said, and as I was trying to take notes it was like there was a lot. And I was wondering if you could like draft up something. I was going to ask also to request that it have some detail to it so I don't misrepresent what you said. Is that something that you could do? Would that be okay?

Dr. Alferink: Yes. I could do that. I was looking for this on the SUAA website and wasn't able to find it this week, but I can get a copy of it. We have a summary sheet, and I'm not sure why it's not there. I can also send you an e-mail. The Center for Tax and Budget Accountability, CBTA, who has their own proposal, has now adopted our proposal as a – so this is the point I was going to make – as our proposal to deal with the budget crisis for the city of Chicago, which also has a substantial budget crisis. And they are talking about using our solution as a way to help the city of Chicago deal with its substantial debt. What I have described for you is not... We're not wedded to the details of this proposal; we're wedded to the concept. We're wedded to changing the way in which people think about solving the pension debt rather than doing it on the backs of people who work for the state and, you know, have put their own money into their pensions. And we want a solution that's fair. We want a solution that helps the state, and we're willing to modify what we have, but we want to get the concept out there and that concept now seems to be gathering some momentum. It's not quite as novel as it was when we started talking about it over a year ago. So I'd be happy to... My e-mail is my last name, Alferink.

Senator Kalter: So, before you go on, I just want to remind everybody. So, we will have a transcript of these minutes and it sounds like SUAA does have something already written up. So I don't want to put you to any extra work, Larry. So, one of the things we can do is trigger when those minutes come out is to have Cera send that around. Sorry, I didn't mean to interrupt you as you were in the middle of your e-mail address. Why don't you go ahead and give that?

Dr. Alferink: @ilstu.edu. So I was obviously an early adopter because I don't have an initial in front of it.

Senator Blum: I'm sure there are other people who would like to be able to share the information.

Dr. Alferink: I can send you that one page summary sheet.

Senator Blum: Yeah, because it's kind of a complex issue. Right?

Dr. Alferink: Yes, it is.

Senator Blum: And I think when I talk to faculty about it I don't want to say the wrong thing.

Dr. Alferink: It is important to recognize that it's been vetted by a professional actuary because the state will require that, and we have come up with multiple solutions to deal with what the legislature would be willing to accept, working with Representative Marwick. And I can easily get you that sheet and can pass it around to all members of the Senate.

Senator Dawson: On the SUAA web page – I've brought this up here, that's suaa.org – on the left side of the main screen there is a link to the bond proposal. It's 22 pages. I'm sure there's a recap somewhere. So, an executive summary.

Dr. Alferink: That will be actually... That will give you... I didn't want to talk about that one because that will give you multiple solutions to this; it's not just the one solution. And it's PowerPoint slides and some of it is what an actuary would describe. So our one page summary sheet would be more useful for your purposes.

Senator Blum: Thank you so much.

Dr. Alferink: Sure.

Senator Kalter: Are there other questions? I always like to take the opportunity, because it bears repeating, that this is particularly important because none of us gets federal Social Security, and my guess is that about 1% of the state knows that, and they're probably the ones who work for the state. So whenever you go out there and talk to people about the pension system, just ask them that Socratic question: Did you know that the people you're talking about actually have no other safety net besides the state pension system?

Provost Murphy: And it's our money. (inaudible) we actually put that money in year after year. So my 33 years of service thank you both for all that you do.

Dr. Alferink: And I should also add that, like all employment systems, employing people is a competitive situation. Sometimes it's a local competition and for certain positions you advertise in the local newspaper, perhaps, or in other things. In other cases it's a national or international search because you're trying to hire the very best person in a field that maybe there's not that many people who are experts. And you're competing, and part of that competition is based on the salary offer and other conditions. Other parts of it are about the benefits that happen when you retired, and those can be very important parts of the package for people to make the decision. And so this affects the quality of the people who you interact with on campus who teach you, who work with you in residence halls and in student organizations, and so it affects your life in ways you don't understand and recognize. But I can assure you that it does, and now you understand it.

Senator Kalter: Any other questions? All right. Thank you so much, Larry. I also should have, when I introduced you, reminded everybody that you were Chair of Psychology for, I don't remember how many years it was.

Dr. Alferink: Fifteen years as Chair of the Psychology Department, a couple years as Director of the Honors Program, a couple years as Associate Dean of the Graduate School, and a couple years at Undergraduate Studies.

Senator Kalter: And so it should bear repeating that one does not stay chair of a department for 15 years without doing something right, right? Very nice.

Dr. Alferink: Or, alternatively, you're a slow learner.

Senator Kalter: Thank you so much for coming, to both of you. All right. We'll move on to chair's remarks.

Chairperson's Remarks

Senator Kalter: Good evening again, everybody. I want to say thank you again to President and First Lady Dietz for hosting us at the university residence. It is always a treat to fill up on heavy hors d'oeuvres and light conversation before our first Senate meeting of the year, and I think that opening event and the administrator question and answer period at these meetings also signal to our campus how important it is to our President, Provost, and Vice Presidents to listen and respond to the thoughts, ideas, and concerns of the faculty, students, and staff through this governing body and the other branches of our shared governance system such as our ASPT committees. They value our leadership and wish to hear from us about theirs. As I said there, I think it's going to be a great year. We have a more diverse Senate and a more diverse Executive Committee than ever. We are over the hurdle of lengthy deliberations about academic due process and faculty disciplinary situations.

We have a refreshed and expanded strategic plan for the university. We are already seeing on campus how the slow and steady increase of international students for undergraduate and graduate programs will start to transform us into something better than what we have been. I hope it also offers a challenge to us, and I would offer a new challenge to our administration that over the next 10, 20, or 30 years we further diversify not just what countries our student body comes from but what states of the union. While it's a proud thing to boast that we admit 95% of our student body from Illinois, it would also be better for the education of the whole for a greater percentage of that student body to originate from out of state. One way to combat brain drain to other states is to keep students from Illinois in Illinois, but another is to attract students into our state and have them join us in making it a place to be so much more proud of that they won't want to leave. We are also, on the other hand, poised as a university of excellence, for example in K-12 education, to impact K-12 classrooms far beyond our own borders including underserved areas where our alumni teachers might serve as part of a pipeline of opportunity and economic development for areas of need in the United States.

Every summer at the start of the summer, I start noticing what kinds of momentous events are going on in the world that might be relevant to us as we step back into the next school year, and this summer many events of moment happened, and there were too many of them to name. When half the country was up, another 30-40% was low and down and vice-versa, but as the Chairperson of the Academic Senate of a university that began as a normal school and where so many of our faculty are involved in areas related to child development and the education of youth, I would be remiss not to say that I witnessed this summer one of the greatest atrocities that I have ever seen perpetrated by the United States government in my adult lifetime. I would never have imagined that we would witness basically what I see as a mass kidnapping of infants and children from their parents at the border. As educators who understand human development, we understand the injury that these traumatic and lengthy separations have had and the long-term impacts on the children – the attachment disorders and other ills likely to be provoked by this cruel, unusual, and mean-spirited policy. I am heartened that people around the country for once these days rose above their partisan identities, recognized themselves first as moral beings, beings of conscience, beings of obligation to a higher power or purpose than base political interest, and united to force a retreat from that policy. Notably, Senator John McCain, who called these actions "an affront to the decency of the American people and contrary to principles and values upon which our nation was founded." I am appalled and disgusted that reunifications are still necessary, and I hope that we will all continue to monitor their speed and condemn any complicity on the part of our state, local, or private entities in the separations.

Some of you may have heard that my father and I brought my most wonderful mother to Ireland this summer. It was a stupendous trip. Not only was it filled with extraordinarily deep history, grand beauty, and wonderful people, but we were able to visit the towns and counties from which six of her eight great-grandparents originated. She grew up hearing from at least one of these children of those pairs of great-grandparents stories that gave her and her family and her own children a solid sense of who we are. I realized just a few weeks prior to the trip that each and every one of these six ancestors was born either during the Great Famine or just before or just after, so survived it when they were just children, and that each of them left Ireland for the United States as another famine threatened and as the final 60-year push toward liberation was underway. Both fight and flight liberated the Irish people as Irish Americans sent support back home to their relatives and countrymen and women. I, personally, have never heard stories from my own family about any prejudices that they may have faced in the United States, but of course I know from history that like Native Americans, the Irish both in Ireland and here were characterized by some as savages and in Ireland were forced to assimilate to someone else's version of civilization in their already long civilized country. Yet, one can walk, like I did, into a passage tomb 5,000 years old that is so architecturally sound that for 5,000 years it has kept the rain out or tour ruins of monasteries where the illumination of manuscripts kept Latin scriptures alive during upheavals on the European continent. These experiences make it easy to see through that term "savage" to the long underlying civilizations over on the Emerald Isle and on these two continents here. Centuries of genius are crossing our borders to join us at ISU, and centuries of genius are crossing it to work low wage and seasonal jobs that provide us the fresh fruit and other products that we ate this evening at Dr. Dietz's, that we eat in campus dining halls, and that we eat at our tables at home. By all means, let us secure our borders. I am very much in favor of securing our borders, but let us never do so by turning into the kind of country that no one looks up to, where no one would

want to go, that has no claim on the moral rectitude and freedoms from oppression that my ancestors came here to seek.

One announcement that I need to make tonight regards an ad hoc committee from last year. The Code of Student Conduct Review Committee met diligently last year, but it did not finish its work by the end of the year. Ad hoc committees are seated for one year at a time, so the Senate needs to be on board with an extension of the Student Code Review Committee's charge into this year, and I believe that it is hoping to send a revised code forward this year to SGA, Senate, and to any of the other internal committees where Exec might choose to send the revision. I was going to ask Dr. Johnson to confirm or correct that; unfortunately, he is not here tonight. Is there anyone who happens to know whether that review committee is sort of on its way toward sending the code forward this year? All right. We'll find out, if we approve their charge to continue into the next year. So, does anybody have any objections to extending that charge? All right. So we will consider the charge extended. We don't need to schedule a formal vote for that, I don't think.

Another couple of things. A few quick reminders. We play by a loose version of Robert's Rules of Order around here to ensure that our meetings are both efficient and inclusive. We may sometimes place time limits on the amount of floor time that any one speaker can use during any one topic of discussion or debate, and that way all interested voices can be heard and points can be made but not belabored. And also a reminder, we're going to have an information session and an action item session in a couple of minutes. During our information item sessions, that's the time when we raise questions and concerns and friendly suggestions regarding recommendations that an internal committee is bringing forth, and if there are several of those, or if concerns are of a significant nature, we will send the recommended changes back to committee for a reconsideration or sometimes out to other eyes such as the legal counsel's eyes or ears for further advice. And then at the action stage we debate and ultimately vote.

So, welcome to the 2018-19 year on the Academic Senate, and thank you, again, for volunteering your service, whether you're new or returning. I do hope that this experience will offer you a chance to do work that you find interesting and make you feel like you're contributing toward making the university better. We have some important work lined up for this year. Next time, last year's Faculty Affairs Committee is sending us a new and improved version of our Research Integrity Policy, and also last year's Academic Affairs Committee will also have several important policies, such as our Grading Practices Policy, out for information next time. The SGA and the Faculty Caucus and eventually our planning committees will be giving input into the next Campus Master Plan and looking at how we strategize our capital renewal and capital building plans and space planning during these decades when technology is changing our relationship with classrooms, changing the interiors of classrooms, and when the State of Illinois has not been actively supporting needed projects. As always, we'll be looking at how we fund faculty and student initiatives, recruit and retain the strongest people, and provide students diverse learning opportunities. One other momentous national event that we may at some point wish to weigh in on is the newly open debate on the Department of Education's longstanding guideline regarding what constitutes a credit hour and why. So, with that, unless there are any questions, I was going to hand it over to Senator Rubio, but unfortunately he is not here so I will be reading his comments. So, are there any questions for my comments before I move on to Senator Rubio's?

Student Body President Remarks

Senator Kalter: All right. Here is Senator Rubio. And I told him, you could have a student read this, but he did say I want you to read it, so I will read it. So I apologize that it's the same voice that you just heard. I'll try to vary that up a little bit, try to channel my Senator Rubio here. So he says, "Good evening everyone. Please excuse my absence from tonight's Senate meeting. I had a death in the family and had to travel back to Chicago for arrangements and some time off. I hope the reception tonight was a nice way to kick off this year and wish I could have been there with you all. There are just a few announcements from my end of the table. Food For Thought will be the School Street Food Pantry's open house on September 21 from 4:00 to 6:00 at the First United Methodist Church. Donations of nonperishable food items will be accepted. This will be a great day to support the new food pantry for college students. Thank you to Vice President Whitsitt for all of his work on

this. The Emerging Leaders Program will start back up on September 10. We look forward to interacting and engaging with a new batch of Redbirds as they transition into campus life and discover their leadership potential. SGA is in the process of working on a mental health initiative aimed at advocating and educating our students about the truth surrounding mental health issues and topics. We plan to collaborate with different departments and student organizations to promote resources and talk about how someone can get help and how you can help someone who is in need of help. This is a topic we have found to be addressed across the university, and we look forward to increasing awareness about the reality of mental health on our campus. I am actively working on the idea of bringing a professional clothing bank to campus. Members of the association and I have been doing research on other campuses as to how this concept works, what it looks like, and other logistics behind it. We are in the process of communicating with these universities and meeting with different departments on campus as to how we can make professional clothing items accessible to our student body.

On September 12, Student Government Association will participate in the grand opening of the Redbird Adventure Center by testing out the course." Okay, this is Susan Kalter talking. That sounds like super really fun, and it would be great if the Senate could get an invitation to that grand opening. "We look forward to this event and wonderful addition to our campus recreation." (That's Rubio again.) "Student Government Association will be joining RSO's departments and businesses on the quad tomorrow for Festival ISU to interact with our students and talk about all the amazing opportunities our community has to offer. We look forward to not only speaking with students but also to our constituents by explaining who we are and how we can help them. To all the professors in the room, if your students aren't in class tomorrow, just know they are doing something of value by exploring their potential by attending the festival." (We'll be checking our policies on that one!) "If any of you in the room have any suggestions or ideas for our work, please reach out to me..." (That's Senator Rubio) "And I would love to speak with you. I look forward to being back and working with all of you. I hope you all had a wonderful start to your semester. And whether you're a student, faculty, administrator, or staff member, don't forget to take some time for yourself and the things you enjoy. Thank you, everyone."

All right. So, if you have any questions for Senator Rubio, you can e-mail them to either him or to us and we'll pass them on. So now we move on to President Dietz for President's Remarks.

Administrators' Remarks

- ***President Larry Dietz***

President Dietz: Thank you very much. I am feeling not worthy here tonight because my comments pale in comparison to Senator Kalter and Senator Rubio's comments, but let me start by saying how delighted Marlene and I were to have this group out at the house tonight. We always look forward to that reception, and for many of you that's probably the pay that you're going to get for your service so I hope that you had a lot to eat tonight and enjoyed yourself. But we do appreciate your service on this important shared governance group and enjoyed having all of you out. Also want to say for some of you, welcome to Academic Senate, for others, welcome back. We are grateful again for your service. We also want to say thank you to everyone for anybody that had a hand in the hard work in bringing in this year's class. It will rank as the second largest freshman class (first time in college class) in the history of the institution and also... if not the most diverse. We're still counting numbers and so forth, but I think it will also be perhaps the most diverse freshman class that we've had in the history of the institution. So a lot goes into that. It's not just one office or one department that gets the credit and kudos. It's really a lot of folks that have a hand in that, so thank you very much for all that you did that resulted in all the folks that you see walking around campus and attending class and being involved.

It's also good to start the year, the academic year, with a budget. We've started the two years prior to that without a budget, and so it's better to have one than not have one. So we're delighted about that. Though we were celebrating that we got a 2% increase in this year's budget, it still was the second lowest amount of appropriation from the state in the last 20 years, so we're still pushing the idea that the funding formula, that there needs to be one (there really has never been one), and we're still pushing the idea that we need a fair funding formula that would allow the university to not be in the basement in terms of the per student funding for

this university. Indeed we're \$2,000 per student below the next institution in terms of the funding that they get, and we're \$3,000 below the norm of public universities in the state. If we had that extra \$3,000 per student, that would build a new College of Fine Arts every year. It would essentially double our appropriation. So we're still paying a lot of attention to that. It's getting some traction in the press and it's getting some traction with legislators, and so more conversation is occurring around that funding formula.

We also have another year where we don't have a capital bill. My understanding from conversations... I was on the phone today a lot with some of our elected officials, and my hope is that we may actually receive some capital before the election, and hopefully that will happen. The CFA funds for the project that was approved in 2009 have still not been released, so we're still working on that. So, lots more to be done, but at least we're starting out with a budget. In terms of money, we ended the last fiscal year with our second largest fundraising year in the history of the institution as well. Last September, we announced publicly our campaign to raise \$150 million for the university, and as of the end of the fiscal year we had raised \$122 of \$150 million, so really terrific work on that as well. The legs of the stool, if you will, that we're raising the money for, the themes are scholarship, leadership, and innovation. And our alums and our own faculty and staff and the people in the community and our donors have responded well to the asks that we've made, and we've got a lot more work to do but we're moving along at a terrific trajectory.

Also want to personally invite each of you to come to the State of the University Address that's scheduled for September 20 at 2:00 p.m. in the Center for Performing Arts. I'm putting together my remarks now that will be delivered on September the 20th, and I invite all of you to come over and listen to the remarks. If you have questions, ask some questions, and then there's refreshments at the end. So I look forward to that. With that, I'll yield to any questions that you might have.

Senator Kalter: Questions for President Dietz? All right. Thank you very much. Going on to Provost Murphy, Provost Murphy, for Provost's comments.

- ***Provost Jan Murphy***

Provost Murphy: Very good. Welcome back, everyone. Thanks. I echo thanks for your service on the Academic Senate. The semester is off to a pretty busy start. I'm sure everybody in the room is feeling that. I won't repeat what President Dietz has told you about enrollment, just to also say thank you to everybody for all the work that you've done. It has taken an entire campus to be successful in our enrollment and recruitment for the fall, so we thank all of you. We should have census day numbers, I'm hoping, by the next Academic Senate meeting so that we can tell you something a little more specific about how many students are here and who they are, but we're pretty excited about that. We still have a number... You know, we'll continue to refine all of our recruitment efforts, and we still have some very long-term enrollment projects like INTO, that Pathways program, Engineering (I'm going to talk a little bit about that tonight), distance education, other new program developments. We'll continue to work on those projects to try to look to other ways to recruit students and to make, in some ways, the university more accessible to students.

So I want to talk a little bit about Engineering just because we want to make sure as we continue planning for Engineering that we're keeping this body apprised of what's going on. So the Task Force on Engineering presented its report this past spring. Vice President for Finance and Planning, Dan Stephens, and I have been working to refine all of the cost analysis that goes with that report. We have to think about the costs of the program in a way that doesn't harm all the rest of our programs at the university, so we really want to think about getting those numbers very clear so that when we make a recommendation to the President, we really are taking into account all of the pieces of that program and how that could impact the rest of the campus. We have pretty decent estimates for faculty, not just the Engineering faculty we'd need, but faculty in IT and in Mathematics, and if you think of all the extra programs that go into Engineering – equipment needs (both the purchase and maintenance of equipment), personnel, operating expenses – it kind of goes on and on. But the big expense... As you can imagine, the biggest expense is the facility. Trying to think of a building that could house Engineering and whether we would have a building that we could renovate for that or whether we'd have

to build new. So that's the one cost that we don't have quite figured out until Vice President Stephens and I are working with people on this campus but also looking at consultants and other architecture and engineering firms. We have a conference we're going to in two weeks that we hope will help us come up with a pretty firm estimate on what size of a building, again, renovation or new. Once we have that, we feel like we'll be... I'm looking at Dan. He's not even making eye contact with me. We feel like at that point in time we ought to be able to sit and present that proposal to the President, who then can look at that and say, yeah, this seems like something that then we can move forward with and make a conversation on campus. And that's the point at which we'll come to this body and try to make a pretty significant presentation to you so you understand what we're thinking about for Engineering, why we think that this could be something that moves forward, again, if the cost estimate makes sense to the President. At that point in time I'd also reconvene the original task force and sit down and walk through, kind of close a loop with that group – many of you in here were on that – to walk through everything we know at that point. So again, we're still in the planning phase and certainly this is a body that would be... You know, we'll make sure that you're aware of what's going on there. So that's Engineering.

Graduate Assistant unionization. The Service Employees International Union has gathered sufficient signatures from teaching graduate assistants to conduct an election to determine if the teaching graduate assistants will form a union and be represented by SEIU. This secret ballot election has been scheduled for October 18 from 9:30 to 4:30, so it's all day here in the Bone Student Center Spotlight Room right across the hallway. Note that it impacts graduate teaching assistants only. So on August 15, graduate director Amy Hurd sent a memo out to all chairs and directors and grad coordinators regarding this election. It included a FAQ document, so your chairs should have that, or I'm sure that Amy Hurd would be glad to send that to you directly if you're interested in that information. If you have questions at all about that unionization, or if your students have questions about that, just have them call over to the Director of Labor Relations at HR. It's currently Mike Kruger. I guess it will be Mike Kruger starting September 1. It was Mike Schultz and it will be Mike Kruger starting September 1.

So, just a quick recognition. ISU's chapter of the National Collegiate Hispanic Honor Society, Sigma Delta Pi, has been named an "Honor Chapter" for its outstanding activities in 2017-18. This is an award that's given to just ten chapters annually, so we're very proud of that chapter and the work that they do on this campus as an honor society. The College of Education dean search has begun. The committee has been selected. A Panel of Ten member and Distinguished Professor, Paul Garriss, has volunteered to serve as chair. I believe that that committee has its first meeting scheduled, or Christie is working to get that scheduled, so that they can begin to work on job description and advertisement. So we're getting there.

And then there are a few Provost office searches that are going to be starting up. So, Associate Provost Jim Jawahar has decided to step back to his home department of Management and Quantitative Methods. We do not have an Interim Associate Provost this fall. We are triaging the work of that office and then will start a search here pretty quickly with the hope that we find someone that can start in the spring in that position. It's hard for me to say this, but our other Associate Provost, Jonathan Rosenthal, has decided to retire. I can't imagine doing my job without Jon Rosenthal. But we will then be starting a search for the Associate Vice President for Undergraduate Education, which is Jonathan's job. And then we also have another position that we had not filled for several years. We've refigured that a bit, and that will be an Assistant Vice President for Academic Administration. So, all three of these will be internal searches. So we anticipate having Illinois State University candidates so we're not doing advertisements outside of the university for those positions. We're running three searches with two search committees. I have chairs for those committees, which are being selected through shared governance processes as outlined in Policy 3.2.13. (There you go!) The chairs will be... Panel of Ten member, Dr. Kathy Wehrmann from Social Work will chair the committee that will be interviewing Associate Provost and Assistant Vice President for Undergraduate Education candidates. And then Dr. Nancy Lind, who is a Professor of Politics and Government, will be chairing the Assistant Vice President search. So the position descriptions are ready to go, should be up on the Provost's website early next week, and I'll send an e-mail out to chairs, directors, deans on the faculty listserv. And then the committee we

hope to have seated by October 1 so that then they can start reviewing applicants and interviewing and doing all those things through the month of October and early November. So when the search... You know, what I would encourage you to do is look for those position descriptions, think about your own career if that's something that seems that you would like to do or are interested in, and/or encourage your colleagues who might be interested in serving in that capacity. So I would be glad to answer any questions about anything I've talked about.

Senator Dawson: Could you say again the different search committees?

Provost Murphy: Sure.

Senator Dawson: Because I got a memo through our college and it doesn't quite match what you said. You're probably right.

Provost Murphy: Well, I think I'm right. Just saying. We have three positions: an Associate Provost, an Associate Vice President for Undergraduate Education, and an Assistant Vice President for Academic Administration. Was there an incorrect memo that went out? Oh, good.

Senator Dawson: You nailed it.

Provost Murphy: Good. All right. Oh, I got it right. Thank you.

- ***Vice President of Student Affairs Levester Johnson***

Senator Kalter: Any other questions? All right. Seeing none, thank you so much, Provost Murphy. I'm going to now channel L.J. I know it's going to be hard. He's a hard one to capture. So he says, "I unfortunately cannot attend the first Senate meeting due to an out of town overnight trip. Student Affairs highlights include the following: Move in and Welcome Week: Move in and Welcome Week were again a huge success. We heard very positive feedback from our students and their families during move in and witnessed great attendance by new students during Welcome Week events. I continue to be so impressed by the creativity of our students and staff who plan these engaging events to welcome our students. This kind of success would not be possible without the hard work and dedication from the faculty, staff, students, and alumni volunteers from throughout the university as well as the planning from staff members in University Housing Services, the Dean of Students Office, University Police Department, Events Management, Dining, and Hospitality. Thanks to all."

Then, "Bone Student Center Revitalization." And he says at the end of his message, "I've included Dan in this message," who can go like this to me [shields her face from questions] if he wants to, as well. "So he might be prepared if there are questions related to the Bone Student Center project or Milner Library." So he says, "Bone Student Center entrances: First floor east is now closed and is expected to re-open in late October. Please note the interior tunnel between Bone and Milner remains open. During the closure, ADA access is available on the first floor west entrance or second floor east entrance. First floor west entrance: If parking in the Bone Student Center pay lot, we recommend guests walk down University Street to enter the building on the west side." I almost used my rock climbing skills today, and that's pretty appropriate since he hasn't taken up my challenge yet on the rock climbing wall, but to try to get up the place where there is no staircase anymore. So he says, "if parking there, we recommend that you walk to University Street and enter the building on the west side. Accessible parking spots have been added to the northwest corner of the pay lot and guests now walk in front of the new Brown Ball Room prefunction space to enter the building. Construction is slightly delayed but continues in the circle drive on the west side. By the start of September, the sidewalk along the south side of the circle drive will re-open, and we anticipate a new sidewalk will be poured in front of the circle drive by mid-September. The sidewalk will give pedestrians access to College Avenue when walking from University Street."

I do, actually, have one question for you, Dan, to start out with. I notice that the accessible parking spots are on the northwest corner rather than the southwest corner, and that sort of raised a question in my mind. I wonder why that particular placement if the southwest corner is closer.

Senator Stephens: That's a very good question. Actually, having hearing you saying that as I was writing notes about accessibility, I'll go back and work with Nick and make sure that our original plans and thoughts of the traffic patterns and where we thought people may park, we may have to open up new spots and areas to redirect so that people are impacted as least as possible. So I'll take that note back, but thank you for asking.

Senator Kalter: Sure. Thank you for that. And are there any other questions about the facilities? All right. Seeing none, we'll move on to Senator Stephens for Vice President for Finance and Planning remarks.

- ***Vice President of Finance and Planning Dan Stephens***

Senator Stephens: Thank you, Senator Kalter. I first of all want to welcome back everybody to this next term, and I'm very much looking forward to spending time with you this year. I will keep my points brief and predominantly focus most of my comments in our facilities area because, as you can imagine, after the last Senate meeting when we get into the summer timeframe, that's really when our facilities teams predominantly try to get as much work as they can done as possible. So, L.J. covered a lot of the activity with the Bone Center. As many of you are seeing, the Watterson dining center, that project is very much into high gear now. That is expected to be working throughout the rest of the year and should be open by next fall. So, that's two of our major projects. But from just a general list of some of the projects that are still ongoing that you may not have noticed, over in the Watterson Tower we're doing a major system upgrade on the fire alarm system. We continue to monitor that and make sure that is current. There is also a new HVA system, which is called a convector system that is currently being worked on so the comfort of that very popular facility continues to be acceptable, and so that project is ongoing. Over in Wilkins Tower, or the Athletics Tower over there, that entire external envelope to that building, which is the outside part of it, that's being redone and continuing to be worked on. As L.J. mentioned in his points, around the Bone Center area renovation, you're seeing a lot of construction on the Milner Plaza. If you remember in last May we got the Board approval at the meeting for the plaza deck area, which is that main concrete area as you cross over the bridge and you go to the left to the Bone Center, you go to the right to the library, that's a five to six million dollar project that was necessary in order to stop leakage of water down into the first floor of the library. And for many of you new students that are here, the first floor of the library has been closed for a number of years because of that water drainage, but when we're done in closing that up and then renovating that area, we'll be able to access close to almost 30 thousand square feet of space that just hasn't been available. So it's been a very major project and we're very thankful that our Board of Trustees allowed us to move forward with that. So that effort should be completed on the concrete sometime around the December/January timeframe. The renovation effort inside will occur after that time because it can't start out until all that construction work is done.

As far as some projects that have been completed, Julian Hall, which is across the street from Hovey, which is our main data center, we had to put in because it continues to grow and our IT needs are there. The heating and air systems necessary to run those systems have to be also optimized where there was a major HVAC project that was done working from underneath the first floor. That's pretty much complete. We continue to keep our facilities open, even those that have been in our appropriation that President Dietz talked about, the CVA project that we're hoping that the Governor finally releases those funds, but in order to keep those buildings opened during the year we also had to complete some roof replacements on those facilities. That was done. The Planetarium had an upgrade. We've created some temporary classroom space as we work to finish out under Julian Hall for our Cyber Security classrooms. So that is being... was finished also. And then the Redbird Activity Center got finished as well. So, I'll leave my points for that. Obviously got a number of other areas in my division that I'll just bring those updates for in the next meetings, but be happy to answer any questions you might have for this first evening.

Senator Ferrence: So, I was just curious, and I think it's a good thing, but I kind of was refreshingly pleased to see about three weeks ago the sidewalk between the SLB greenhouse and the new Community building, what used to be the Honors Building, disappeared. And I was just wondering what inspired it. Was that part of the Watterson project? For somebody who parks in that parking lot, it's handy because I've almost run over several people over the years, so it's helpful.

Senator Stephens: I actually noticed that myself. Actually, where that project got started from was the idea where Chuck Scott, the AVP, was talking to me about at the end of the year we've got a number of areas across the campus, especially sidewalk areas that just have been on the list for, you know, proper maintenance. And so what Chuck and I talked about was let's try to not just simply take the list and place things on that list and see if we can get that list done, we actually added a few more areas. And so that particular pathway through there was one of those... was a new project that we got placed on the list to try to get upgraded so we can continue to make sure our campus is as attractive as we can despite the fact that the state is not giving us, you know, capital bills. So that is really a renovation effort designed to improve that walkway, and we're doing that in other areas across the rest of the campus. It's just we're not doing very, very large projects; we're picking off small parts where we can to watch our funding.

President Dietz: I would also add to that that I know that the Center for Community Engagement and Service Learning is looking forward to using some of that grassy space for a little programming there whenever they're meeting with the off campus non-profit groups to come in. So I think they're going to take advantage of the green space to do some of that.

Senator Blum: I just want to say you're responsible for getting G53 paved. Is that your area?

Senator Stephens: Yes, sir.

Senator Blum: I just wanted to say thank you. All right?

Senator Stephens: I won't hold my paper up for that time.

Senator Blum: Okay. It's a very nice job and a wonderful fence, after I want to say students and faculty, by the way, spent many years trampling over plastic fences and things like that. So for both safety... But I also think it looks really nice, and I think in particular that parking lot is important because people who come here that only come for events park there, and so to have a gravel-ish looking thing that kind of looks like it's sort of half-done versus something that looks like a really nice place and worthy of the university. So I wanted to say thank you for that.

Senator Stephens: And actually, thank you for reminding me of that. I was trying to grab as much of the list as I could tonight. But I appreciate you bringing that up because our goal there was not only removing a gravel lot, which is... and those old fencing that we had, but it was also to create an attractive fence that matches with Metcalf. But we worked with Aaron at the Police Department to talk about the pathway by which... What those fences were designed to do is to move people as they leave the parking lot to a safer area rather than just simply cross the street. So that was our first attempt to see how well that does for this particular fall. So I appreciate you recognizing that. It is a very attractive fence, and we wanted to make sure it did show the image of ISU to even guests.

Senator Kalter: I'm not sure it's completely unprecedented, but it certainly has been a record amount of time since we had a compliment on parking.

Senator Stephens: This is true. So I've got it recorded. I'm going to replay it every week.

Senator Blum: I will say, just to be honest, that not all my colleagues will be happy with that fence. Okay? But I have told them that, you know, it's healthy for them to walk a little bit further.

Senator Kalter: If you can find two faculty on this campus who agree about anything, let me know. Any other questions for Senator Stephens? Excellent. All right.

Advisory Items:

Surveillance Equipment Memo (President Dietz)

Senator Kalter: We move on to our advisory item, simply a surveillance equipment memo. We get this from the President's office every year just letting people know that sometimes the use of electronic equipment for surveillance purposes is necessary. Did anybody have any questions or comments about that memo? All right. If not, we'll move to our action item.

Action Items:

Approval of Dean's Evaluation Instruments for CAS, CAST, CFA, COB, MCN, MIL per the Administrator Evaluation policy (Administrative Affairs and Budget Committee)

Senator Kalter: This one's a little bit complicated, but we're doing something to try to uncomplicated things. About two years ago, we actually had the information item about these Deans' Evaluation Instruments. So, annually, usually in the spring, every dean and every chair or director... Every dean of every college and every chair or director of every department or school is evaluated usually by faculty and staff, and I think in some or maybe all places by students. So these are the questions that are asked. A couple of years ago, the Administrative Affairs and Budget Committee went through the deans' instruments and said, yes, we are doing this according to our, I think it's the Administrator Evaluation Policy (which is 3.2.15 if I remember correctly), and said these look fine. These are the instruments that have been in use, and they look fine to us. It went through a bunch of approval levels because both the Chairs Council and the Deans Council also have an approval on those. The deans okayed them as well, but the Chairs Council took a little bit of time to give us feedback, and when we got the feedback from them I think it was this past spring, it was of the nature where it needs to go back either to the committee or, in most cases, back to the College Councils to consider incorporating into their deans' instruments. We thought, you know, this could go on for years and years because it already has been going on for years and years. So what we're going to ask you to do tonight is basically just say, yes, we approve the existing instruments that have been being used for the last several years in each of the colleges represented here, and then essentially by doing that you're approving the process of having the feedback go back to the College Councils, and in one case it has to go back to Administrative Affairs and Budget Committee because there were some comments from the Chairs Council about the College of Fine Arts instrument. That may be something that the committee may or may not disagree with, and so that will have to be batted back and forth. First of all, is that clear as mud? Does anybody have any questions about what's happening? All right. And you also notice that the College of Education instrument is not on this list, and that is because that originally was not in the information set that went out two years ago because there were some issues with that particular instrument. As I said in Executive Committee, it was kind of a "one of these things is not like the other" type of look at that, and so they are already working with that College Council to try to bring that instrument into a better shape. And so that one is sort of off the table right now. So as an action item I think I need to have somebody formally put this on the floor. It's technically coming from a committee, but let's do it sort of as individual, a motion and a second, tonight since that committee hasn't dealt with this for a while. Does anybody want to move?

Motion by Senator Marx, seconded by Senator Haugo, to approve the Dean's Evaluation Instruments. The motion was unanimously approved.

02.01.18.02: Policy 1.16 Recruitment of Service Members CURRENT no changes (Academic Affairs Committee)

Senator Kalter: Excellent. We have existing Deans' Instruments. Thank you so much. We have another action item that some of you may remember came, I believe, it was at the first April meeting last year. Essentially this

is a no changes recommended kind of policy, and we did not... Unfortunately we looked at this before the consent agenda came in, so even though there are no changes, we're sending it through on the normal type of agenda. We already had the information item about it in the spring. Again, Recruitment of Service Members Policy 1.16. There are no recommended changes. Before we move this one forward, does anybody have any questions about that? We'll just do a little half information item on this one.

Senator Marx: I just want to ask why it says "Option Box 1" on there. What does that refer to?

Senator Kalter: Oh, that's an excellent question. Cera, do you have any idea why it says... Sometimes weird things happen when you cut and paste from a website I guess is the answer to that. Usually what you're seeing below that is what goes along the ribbon on, what is that, the right hand side. And so there must be some computer thing that occurred, but it is not part of the policy. It has nothing to do with the policy. All right. Anything else? All right. Senator Pancrazio, do you want to, since you were the chair of last year's Academic Affairs Committee, do you want to move this to the floor?

Motion by Senator Pancrazio on behalf of 2017-18 Academic Affairs Committee to approve policy 1.16.

Senator Kalter: Awesome. All right. So on behalf of the committee, so that does not need a second, do we have any debate about making no changes to this policy? All right. Seeing none, all in favor of making no changes to this policy, please signify by saying aye.

The motion was unanimously approved.

Senator Kalter: And soon you will be saving that ten seconds that we just wasted by using the consent agenda. All right. So that's our action items for the night.

Information Items:

04.09.18.01 Cover Sheet Policy 2.1.23 Transcripts (Academic Affairs Committee)

05.17.18.01 MARK UP Policy 2.1.23 Transcripts (Academic Affairs Committee)

05.17.18.02 MARK UP Policy 2.1.24 Transcript Holds (Academic Affairs Committee)

Senator Kalter: We have one information item. It is also coming from the Academic Affairs Committee from last year. They are recommending that we get rid of a policy that's called the Transcript Holds Policy (its 2.1.24) and just fold it into the Transcripts Policy, 2.1.23. Do you want to say anything about that, Senator Pancrazio, at all?

Senator Pancrazio: I don't think I can add anything else to it. It is that simple.

Senator Kalter: All right. Terrific. Anybody see anything about that change that needs comment or any kind of inquiry? Any questions about it? All right. Information items or questions and comments, so we'll wait for two weeks to put that forward for action, but it looks like it's probably just going to go through as usual. All right.

And the last thing on the agenda, except for communications, is we'll get committee reports, and all that is, is letting us know who did you elect as your chair and who did you elect as your secretary. So we'll start with Academic Affairs Committee.

Committee Reports:

Academic Affairs Committee

Senator Pancrazio: Thank you, Senator Kalter. I will be continuing as the Chair of the Academic Affairs Committee, and I would like to thank Student Senator Alex Campbell for stepping up and taking on the role of the Secretary. Thank you, and we really appreciate the support that we get. It helps out a lot.

Administrative Affairs and Budget Committee

Senator Marx: Yes, David Marx will be the chair of the committee (myself), and Senator Day will be the Secretary.

Faculty Affairs Committee

Senator Kalter: All right. Excellent. I feel like I've seen his name on the secretary role earlier, so thank you so much. You must be doing a good job, Senator. Faculty Affairs Committee had a low number of people today because we had a couple people out on emergencies, so they, I understand, are having an interim chair in Senator Enriquez.

Senator Enriquez: Well, we'll have an election for a permanent chair next time we meet. The committee was not complete.

Senator Kalter: Was not complete. And did you elect a Secretary, or are you going to wait on that as well?

Senator Enriquez: What we did last year was one student served one week and the other the following week, so I think we will continue with that.

Senator Kalter: Okay, why don't you confirm that with us next week when you have the election? We'll just write that down. The other thing, you had asked about what are the priorities on the agenda. So I had forgotten to let you know that although I said the Integrity Policy, it's actually fairly complete, it's already at the Executive Committee stage and is now in Legal but will probably be coming to the floor or possibly briefly back to committee. And then the other things that I had on the list were Sabbatical Policy, and then you kind of have a you can decide where you want to go – Tenure Policy, Ombudsperson Policy, Export Control, are the ones that sort of rose to the...

Senator Enriquez: From last year.

Senator Kalter: Yeah, from... That seem like some of the key policies as opposed to some of the more ordinary ones like Employment in Excess of full-time employment or that kind of thing. So those are the ones that rose to the top, in my estimation. Let's see. We've got Planning and Finance Committee.

Planning and Finance Committee

Senator Mainieri: I will be serving as chair of Planning and Finance, and I'm very thankful to Senator Solebo for stepping up to be the Secretary.

Senator Kalter: Wonderful. All right. Thank you so much to both of you for stepping up and also for the people who are going to give reinforcements because we've got some travel and things like that going on. All right. And Rules Committee.

Rules Committee

Senator Horst: I will be chairing the Rules Committee, and Senator Zamudio will be the Secretary. Thank you very much.

Senator Kalter: All right. Thank you. Terrific. We always love those people who volunteer for those roles, and for the students, as we said, you can put it on your CV or resume, whichever one you might end up having.

Communications

Senator Kalter: So we move on to Communications. Communications is a time when you can basically say anything that you need to say to the Senate. You can announce events that are going on in your area. You know, pretty much anything. It's also a time when we, if we need to or want to, can put Sense of the Senate Resolutions onto the floor. A reminder about those, they do not need to go through Executive Committee.

They can, if you'd like to have Exec give you some advice about them, but they don't have to. And, what else should I say about what communications are? I think I've said everything I need to say.

The only other thing is that my communication is I want to introduce Cera Christensen, who is sitting two to my left. She is our wonderful Senate clerk, and so she will be the person that you ask about things like where can I get a permit to park in the Bone Student Center lot and if you're a committee chair, how can I get this on the Executive Committee agenda and just all kinds of things. And if she doesn't know, she'll ask either myself or Martha and we'll get the answer to you. So thank you, Cera, for all of the stuff that you do. It's awesome.

Anybody else have communications for the Senate? All right. There are no events going on yet. So, we move to adjournment. Reminder to faculty that we have a very, very short Caucus right afterwards. Anybody want to motion to adjourn?

Adjournment

Motion by Senator Dawson, seconded by Senator Day, to adjourn. The motion was unanimously approved.